

## Chapter 3

### Alkenes:

Structures, Nomenclature and  
an Introduction to Reactivity

Thermodynamics  
and Kinetics

Adapted from Profs. Turro & Breslow, Columbia University and Prof. Irene Lee,  
Case Western Reserve University

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Ever put an apple into a bag with green tomatoes or a green banana?

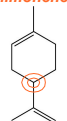
Natural Products:  $\text{CH}_2=\text{CH}_2$



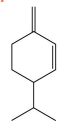
muscalure

sex attractant of the house fly

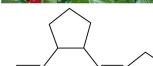
What might account for the difference  
between lemon and orange in the  
limonene structure?



limonene  
from lemon and  
orange oils



$\beta$ -phellandrene  
oil of eucalyptus



multifenene  
sex attractant of  
brown algae

## Molecular Formulas of Alkenes

Saturated vs. Unsaturated: Missing Hydrogens

$\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$   
a saturated hydrocarbon

$\text{CH}_3\text{CH}=\text{CHCH}_3$   
an unsaturated hydrocarbon

Alkenes are completely "saturated"  
i.e. only single bonds

Each double bond has 1 degree of unsaturation.

Each ring has 1 degree of unsaturation.

Each triple bond is 2 degrees of unsaturation.

Compare a molecular formula to an alkane's: every  
TWO Hydrogens less = 1 degree of unsaturation

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## Molecular Formulas of Alkenes

Saturated vs. Unsaturated: Missing Hydrogens

Noncyclic alkene:

$\text{C}_n\text{H}_{2n}$   
1 degree of unsaturation

Cyclic alkene:

$\text{C}_n\text{H}_{2n-2}$   
(Same as an alkyne;  
2 degrees of unsaturation)

$\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$   
an alkane  
 $\text{C}_5\text{H}_{12}$   
 $\text{C}_n\text{H}_{2n+2}$

$\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$   
an alkene  
 $\text{C}_5\text{H}_{10}$   
 $\text{C}_n\text{H}_{2n}$

a cyclic alkane  
 $\text{C}_5\text{H}_{10}$   
 $\text{C}_n\text{H}_{2n}$

a cyclic alkene  
 $\text{C}_5\text{H}_8$   
 $\text{C}_n\text{H}_{2n-2}$

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## Systematic Nomenclature of Alkenes

Follows alkane rules; treats double bond as a function:  
Think of alcohols

$\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$   
1-butene

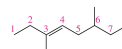
$\text{CH}_3\text{CH}=\text{CHCH}_3$   
2-butene

$\text{CH}_3\text{CH}=\text{CHCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$   
2-hexene

$\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)=\text{CHCH}_2\text{CH}_3$   
2-propyl-1-hexene

the longest continuous chain has eight carbons  
but the longest continuous chain containing  
the functional group has six carbons, so the  
parent name of the compound is hexene

Substituents in alphabetical order with lowest numbers

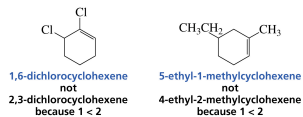
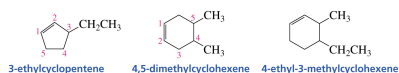


$\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)=\text{CHCH}_2\text{CH}_3$   
2,5-dimethyl-4-octene  
not  
4,7-dimethyl-4-octene  
because 2 < 4

$\text{CH}_3\text{CHCH}(\text{Br})=\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$   
2-bromo-4-methyl-3-hexene  
not  
5-bromo-3-methyl-3-hexene  
because 2 < 3

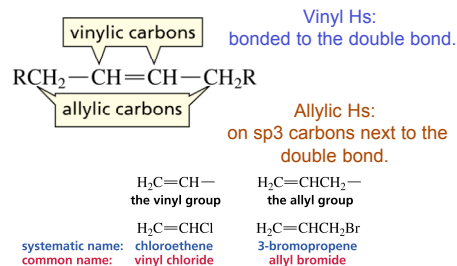
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•Cyclic alkenes:



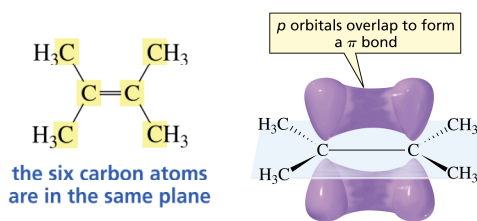
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## Important Special Terms



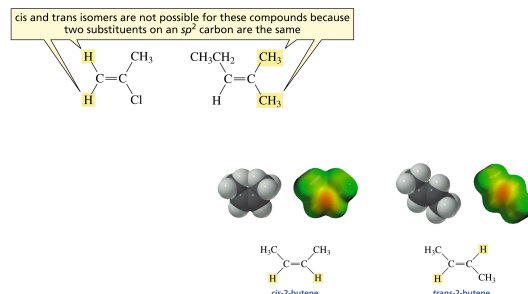
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## Structure of Alkenes

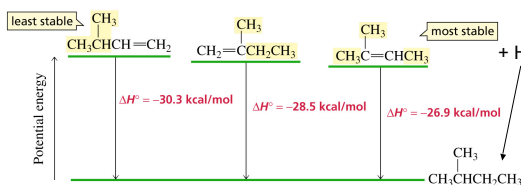


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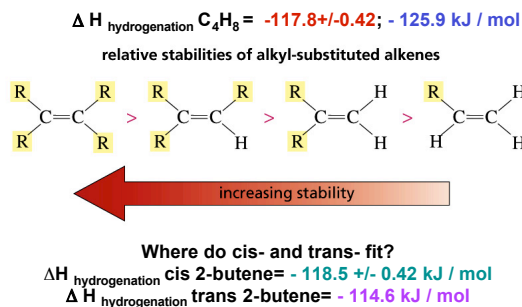
## Isomers of Alkene



## Relative Stabilities of Pentene Isomers

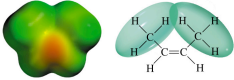


## Relative Stabilities of Alkenes



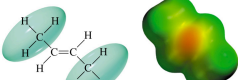
# Steric Strain in Alkenes

the cis isomer has steric strain



*cis*-2-butene

the trans isomer does not have steric strain



*trans*-2-butene

# Relative Stabilities of Dialkyl-Substituted Alkenes

relative stabilities of dialkyl-substituted alkenes

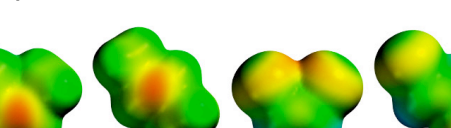
CC=CH > CC(C)=C - CC(C)=C

alkyl substituents are trans

alkyl substituents are cis

alkyl substituents are on the same  $sp^2$  carbon

# Dipole Moments of Alkene Isomers



Four 3D electrostatic potential maps of alkene isomers are shown, illustrating their dipole moments. The maps use a color scale where red/orange indicates electron density and blue indicates electron deficiency.

- cis-2-butene**  
bp = 3.7 °C  
 $\mu = 0.33$  D
- trans-2-butene**  
bp = 0.9 °C  
 $\mu = 0$  D
- cis-1,2-dichloroethene**  
bp = 60.3 °C  
 $\mu = 2.95$  D
- trans-1,2-dichloroethene**  
bp = 47.5 °C  
 $\mu = 0$  D

# Cis-Trans Isomerization & Vision

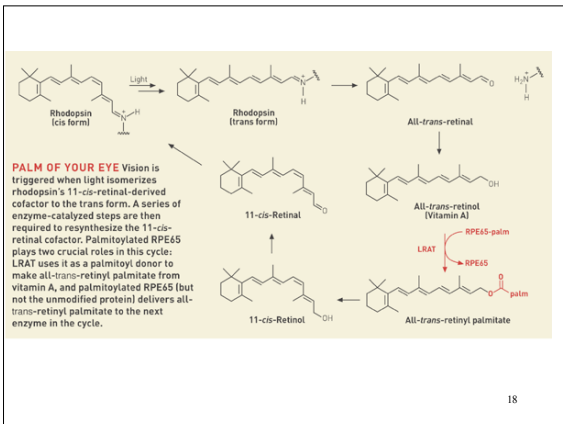
The diagram illustrates the process of cis-trans isomerization in the context of vision. It is divided into two main sections: chemical structures and 3D models.

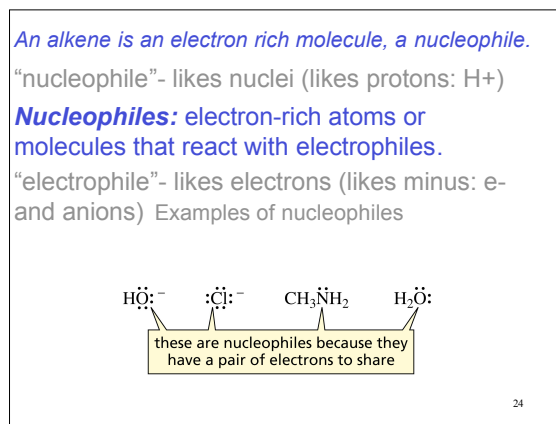
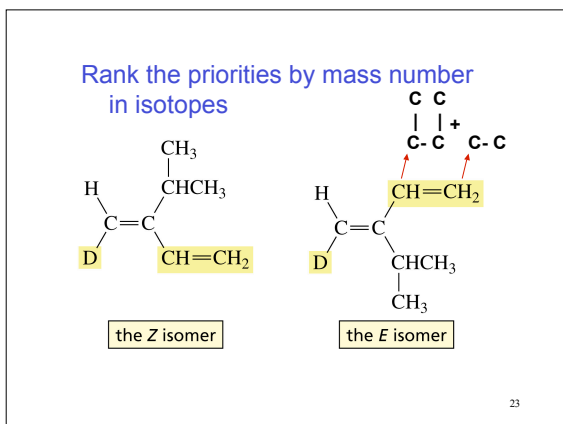
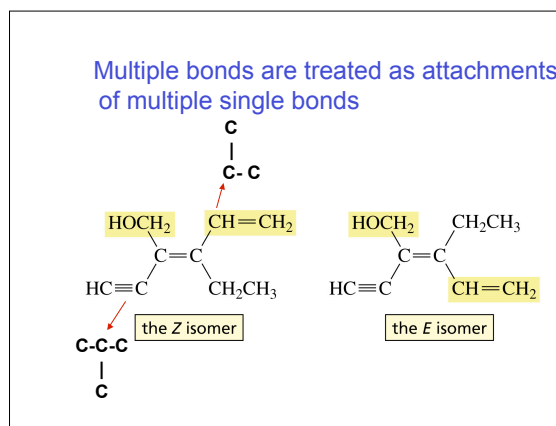
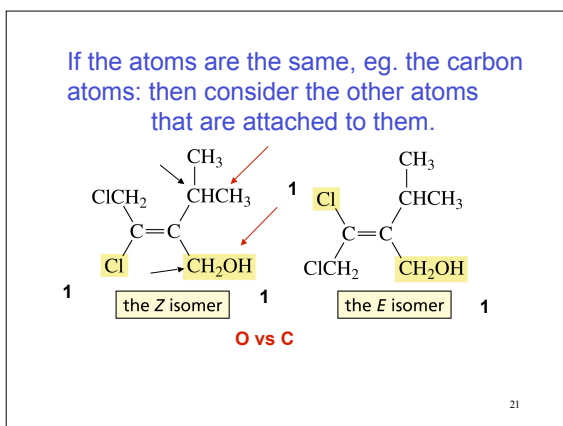
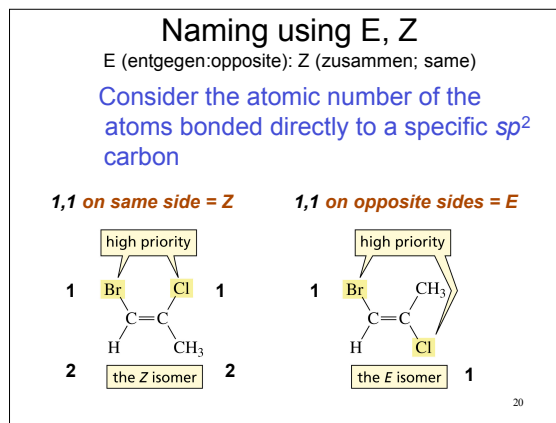
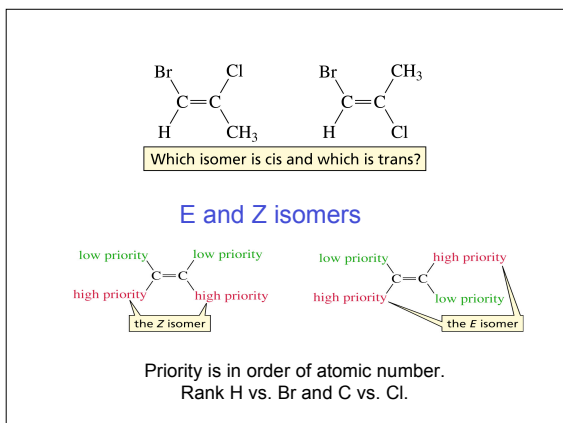
**Chemical Structures:**

- rhodopsin:** Shown on the left, it features a retinal molecule with a **cis double bond** (indicated by a yellow box). The molecule is attached to an **N-opsin** group.
- metarhodopsin II (trans-rhodopsin):** Shown on the right, it features a retinal molecule with a **trans double bond** (indicated by a yellow box). The molecule is attached to an **N-opsin** group.
- Light:** An arrow labeled **light** points from rhodopsin to metarhodopsin II, indicating the isomerization process.

**3D Models:**

- rhodopsin:** A space-filling model showing the retinal chain (black and grey spheres) and the **opsin** group (blue sphere).
- metarhodopsin II (trans-rhodopsin):** A space-filling model showing the retinal chain (black and grey spheres) and the **opsin** group (blue sphere).

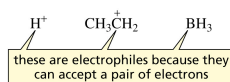






Nucleophiles are attracted to electron-deficient atoms or molecules (electrophiles)

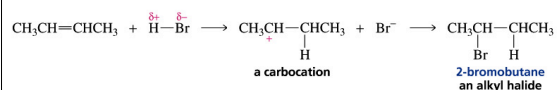
Examples of Electrophiles



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## Electrophilic Addition of HBr to Alkene

A two step reaction.  
Mechanistic path of a reaction:  
how reactants form products.

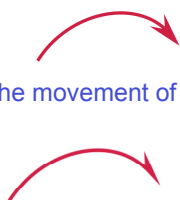


How can a mechanism be illustrated?  
i.e. bond making & bond breaking

## Using Curved Arrows in Reaction Mechanisms

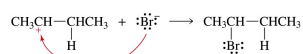
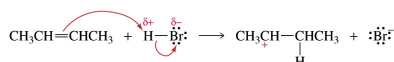
Movement of a pair of electrons:  
START arrows from electrons pointing to electrophile

Use 1/2 arrow for the movement of one electron



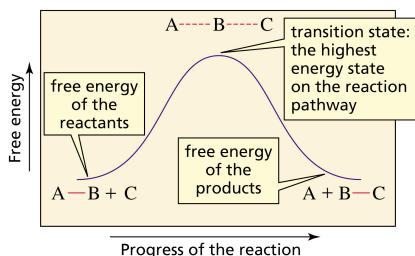
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## Using Curved Arrows



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## Reaction Coordinate or Energy Diagram



Transition states have partially formed bonds  
Intermediates have fully formed bonds

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## Thermodynamic Parameters

$$\Delta G^\circ = \Delta H^\circ - T\Delta S^\circ$$

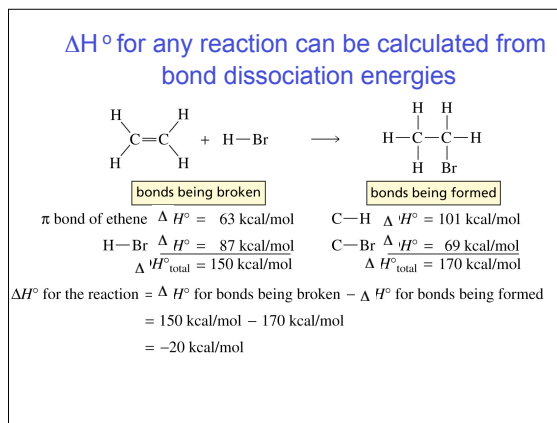
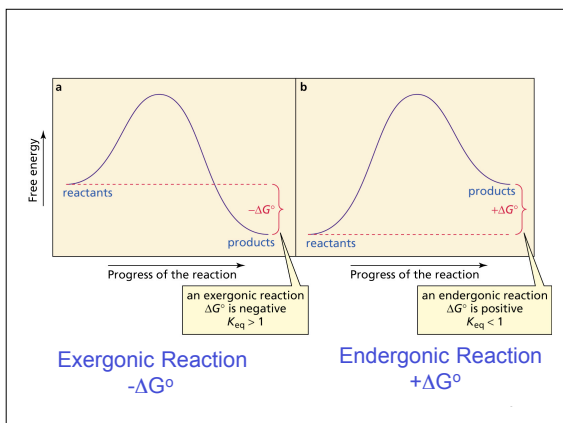
Gibbs standard free energy change ( $\Delta G^\circ$ )

Enthalpy ( $\Delta H^\circ$ ): the heat given off or absorbed during a reaction

Entropy ( $\Delta S^\circ$ ): a measure of freedom of motion

If  $\Delta S^\circ$  is small compared to  $\Delta H^\circ$ ,  $\Delta G^\circ \sim \Delta H^\circ$

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Kinetics deals with the rate of chemical reactions and the reaction mechanism

Rate of a reaction =

$$\left( \frac{\text{number of collision}}{\text{per unit time}} \right) \times \left( \frac{\text{fraction with sufficient energy}}{\text{}} \right) \times \left( \frac{\text{fraction with proper orientation}}{\text{}} \right)$$



$$\text{rate} \propto [\text{A}]$$



$$\text{rate} = k[\text{A}][\text{B}]$$

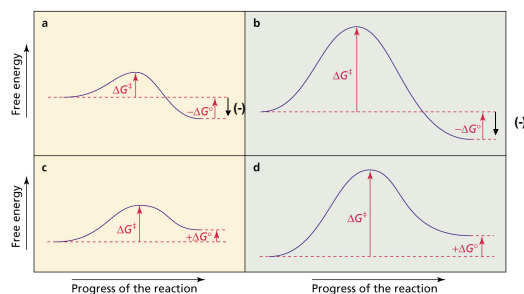


$$\text{rate} = k[\text{A}]^2$$

The rate-limiting step controls the overall rates of the reaction

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The free energy of activation & the transition state and the reactants



$$\Delta G^\ddagger = \Delta H^\ddagger - T\Delta S^\ddagger$$

$\Delta G^\ddagger$  :  
 (free energy of transition state) - (free energy of reactants)

$\Delta H^\ddagger$  :  
 (enthalpy of transition state) - (enthalpy of reactants)

$\Delta S^\ddagger$  :  
 (entropy of transition state) - (entropy of reactants)

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## Rates and Rate Constants

First-order reaction



$$\text{rate} = k[\text{A}]$$

Second-order reaction



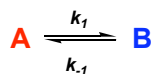
$$\text{rate} = k[\text{A}][\text{B}]$$

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## The Arrhenius Equation

$$k = Ae^{-E_a/RT} \quad E_a = \Delta H^\ddagger + RT$$

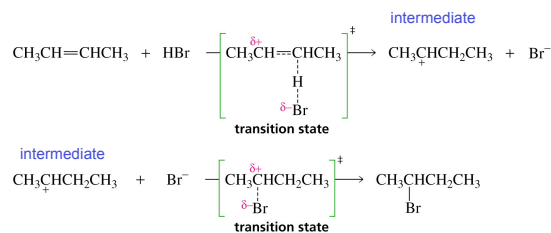
## Rate Constants and the Equilibrium Constant



$$K_{eq} = k_1/k_{-1} = [B]/[A]$$

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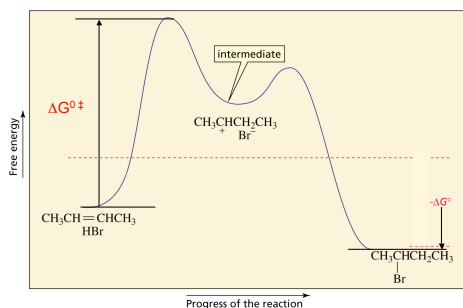
## Transition State Versus Intermediate



Transition states have partially formed bonds

Intermediates have fully formed bonds

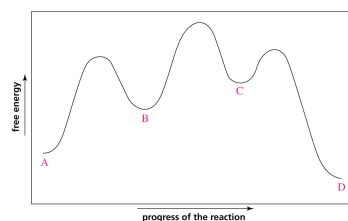
## Electrophilic Addition of HBr to 2-Butene



The rate-limiting step controls the overall rates of the Reaction. It has the highest activation energy.

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Problem 3.39



- How many intermediates are there in the reaction?
- How many transition states are there?
- What is the fastest step in the reaction?
- Which is more stable, A or D?
- What is the reactant of the rate-determining step?
- Is the first step of the reaction exergonic or endergonic?
- Is the overall reaction exergonic or endergonic?

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10a

Addition of Hydrogen Halides to Alkenes 1

Why does the proton add to one carbon preferably over the other?  
(The reaction is regioselective.)

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⊙ Drag the π bond to the more electrophilic atom of HBr.



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